



City of San Diego  
**CARL DEMAIO**  
CITY COUNCILMEMBER –DISTRICT 5

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 21, 2011  
TO: Roger Bailey, Director of Public Utilities  
FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio *Carl DeMaio*  
RE: Water Meter Information Request

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According to a 2007 news report, the City of San Diego estimates that 8 percent of our total water supply is “lost.” That translates into more than \$20 billion in losses annually. (“The Case of San Diego’s Vanishing Water,” Voice of San Diego, August 1, 2007)

Imprecisely function older water meters are cited as one cause of the water loss. If old meters are causing water loss, measures should be taken to replace those meters, insofar as the benefit of doing so, in terms of curbing water loss, is determined to outweigh the costs.

Please provide my office with answers to the following questions.

- How much estimated water loss occurred in the City of San Diego’s water system, both in terms of volume and monetary value, during each of FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010?
- How much of the estimated water loss during each of FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010 is attributable to water meters?
- Does the City have an estimate of the number of meters that require replacing? If so, what is that number?
- What is the age of the oldest meters?

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- How many water meters are installed, in total?
- How many meters were replaced in each of FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010?
- Does the City conduct formal audits of water losses? If not, why not?

Should your office have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Frank Prewoznik on my staff.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

cc: Aimee Faucett, Deputy Chief of Staff/Director of Policy, Office of the Mayor